

CAPTAIN GRAVITY™

And the POWER of the VRIL

No. 3



\$2.95

13.65 Cms

Feb 2005



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MCGARCIA



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CAPTAIN GRAVITY: THE POWER OF THE VRIL™

In the last issue:

Hollywood starlet Chase Dubois set off to Egypt with her jetsetter German boyfriend, Jan Gunter, for an archaeological dig—a dig that had caught the attention of the American and British governments. It seemed that Hitler had sent research teams out to study the origin of the swastika and the powers that be wanted to know why. As a spy on the early World War II battlegrounds, Chase followed Jan in an effort to catch him up to no good, but her plan backfired as she became Jan's hostage. Captain Gravity attempted to rescue her, but encountered other users of the Vril power.

CAPTAIN GRAVITY

And the POWER of the VRIL

Written by Joshua Dysart Pencils by Sal Velluto
Inks by Bob Almond Colors by Mike Garcia
Letters by Richard Starkings & Comcraft's Albert Deschesne
Cover by Sal Velluto & Mike Garcia
Created by Stephen Vraflos

THE REAL
AMERICAN HERO, OBVIOUSLY
WORKING FOR HIS GOVERNMENT,
SHOWS UP IN NORTH AFRICA TO
SAVE THE STAR OF HIS
VERY OWN FILMS!

DAS IST
FANTASTISCH!

DID YOUR
PR DEPARTMENT
ARRANGE
THIS?

CHASE...
I'M SORRY
I FAILED
YOU

OCTOBER 22, 1962.

UHM...
MR. LEY?

...
YES?

YOU--
YOU JUST
KIND OF DRIFTED
OFF FOR
A SEC.

THE
CHARACTERISTICS
OF THESE NEW MISSILE
SITES IN CUBA INDICATE
TWO DISTINCT TYPES OF
INSTALLATIONS.

MR. WILLEY
LEY?

DID I?

IT'S A HOT
DAY FOR FALL.
WOULD
YOU LIKE SOME
LEMONADE?

THAT
SOUNDS
NICE.

SEVERAL OF THEM
INCLUDE MEDIUM RANGE
BALLISTIC MISSILES CAPABLE
OF CARRYING A NUCLEAR
WARHEAD FOR A DISTANCE
OF MORE THAN 1000
NAUTICAL MILES.

I WAS ASKING
ABOUT THIS FRIEND
OF YOURS, THE ONE WHO
KNOWS ABOUT NAZI
INVOLVEMENT WITH
THE VRIL.

AHHHH,
YES, THE
VRIL.

EACH OF
THESE MISSILES,
IN SHORT, IS CAPABLE
OF STRIKING
WASHINGTON,
D.C.

"SO UHM...COULD YOU
TELL ME ANYTHING ABOUT
HIM, MR. LEY?"





I THOUGHT OF ALL THE THINGS I COULD'VE DONE WITH HER.



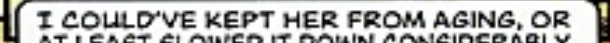
I COULD'VE TAKEN HER FLYING THROUGH TOPANGA CANYON ON A WARM SUMMER'S EVENING.



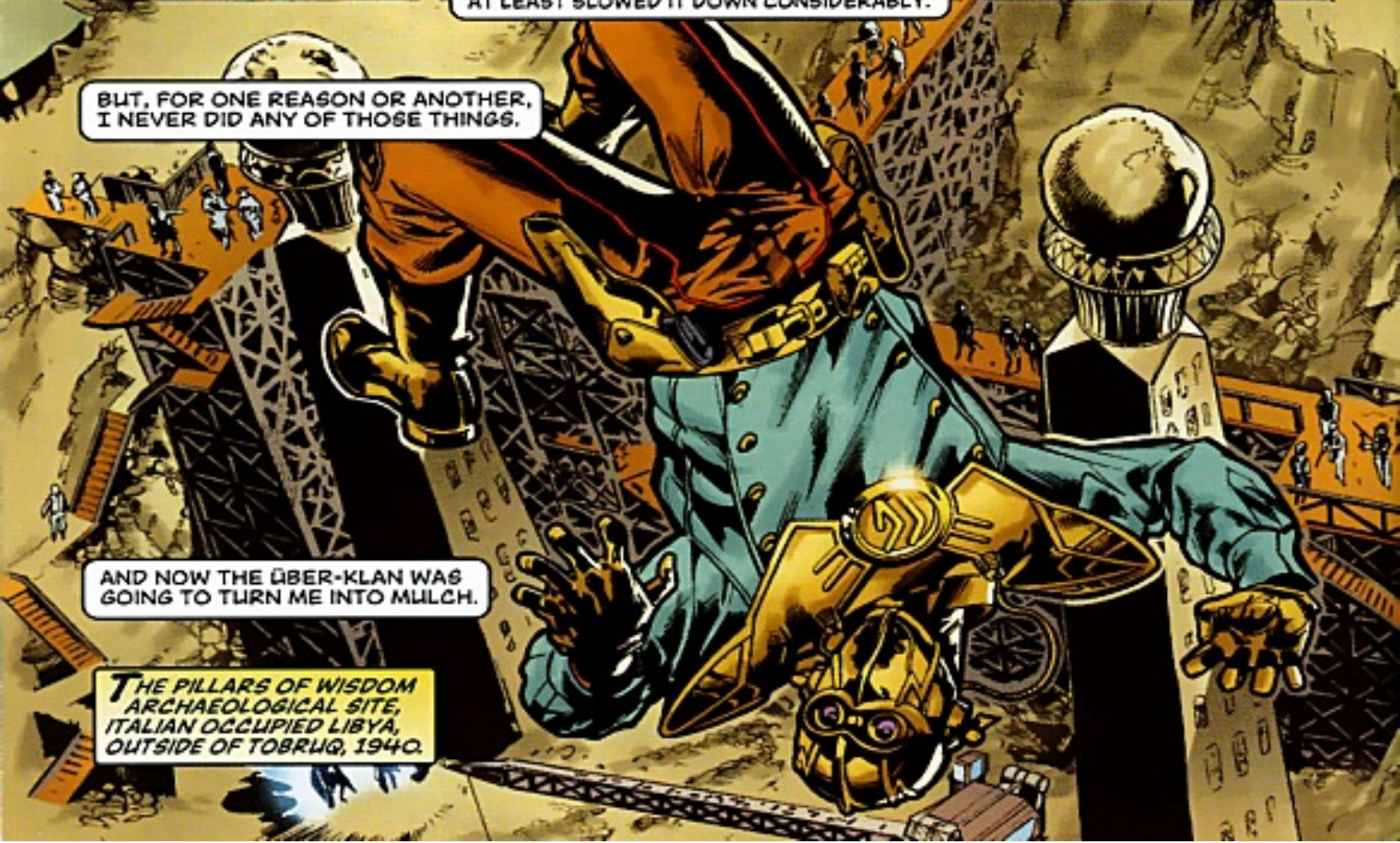
I COULD'VE LET HER DANCE UPSIDE DOWN ON THE CEILING TO COUNT BASIE.



I COULD'VE KEPT HER AWAKE LATE INTO THE NIGHT, SHARING THOUGHTS I'VE NEVER SHARED WITH ANYONE, ABOUT MY POWERS, ABOUT WHAT THEY MEAN.



I COULD'VE KEPT HER FROM AGING, OR AT LEAST SLOWED IT DOWN CONSIDERABLY.



BUT, FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, I NEVER DID ANY OF THOSE THINGS.

AND NOW THE ÜBER-KLAN WAS GOING TO TURN ME INTO MULCH.

**THE PILLARS OF WISDOM
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE,
ITALIAN OCCUPIED LIBYA,
OUTSIDE OF TOBRUQ, 1940.**

THEIR POWERS WERE
THE SAME AS MINE.

BUT THE WAY THEY USED
THEM WAS FAR BEYOND
MY UNDERSTANDING.

THEY SEEMED TO STOP TIME.

THEY HIT ME WITH SOME
SORT OF PULSE BLAST
THAT SHUDDERED MY
ENTIRE BODY AND MADE
MY HEART SKIP A BEAT.

I WAS A COMMON KITCHEN
MOUSE LOCKED IN THE PAWS
OF LAZY PREDATORS.

NEXT THEY COUNTERED
THE GRAVITY AROUND
MY BRAIN. ALL ITS
JUICES WENT HAYWIRE,
CONSUMING ME IN A
SPLIT SECOND OF
MADNESS.

WHILE THE OTHER
MADE MY HEART RISE.

I TRIED TO FORCE A BUBBLE OF
WEIGHTLESSNESS OUT INTO THE
THICK SOUP OF BEING AROUND ME.

AHHHHH!

BUT THERE WAS NO
GRAVITATIONAL
CONSTANT TO USE
AS A POINT OF
REFERENCE. NATURE
WAS ON THE BLINK
ALL AROUND ME.

THEN ONE BEGAN TO
PULL MY BODY DOWN
TO THE EARTH....

GHA!

THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF
THE POWER WAS SUPERIOR,
OVERWHELMING. I WAS
DOOMED.

...VISUALIZATION.

I LET GO OF THIS
MORTAL COIL AND
SPENT MY LAST
MOMENTS IN...

THEN SUDDENLY...

...SERENITY.

THE RELENTLESS
PAIN RELENDED...

...REPLACED BY A RELIEVING NUMBNESS SO COMPLETE THAT
I FELT LIKE A GHOST SLEEPING AT THE BOTTOM OF AN OCEAN.

HOW HAD I DIED? HAD THEY BROKEN MY BACK?
CRUSHED MY HEART AGAINST MY CHEST? WAS
THIS DEATH ITSELF OR SOME MYSTIC MOMENT
OF RELINQUISHMENT SECONDS BEFORE DEATH?

THEN I REALIZED, IT WASN'T DEATH AT ALL. I HAD SIMPLY
UNCLENCHED, AND IN SO DOING HAD UNCONSCIOUSLY
CREATED A PERFECT GRAVITY BUBBLE.

I COULD ACTUALLY FEEL MY BLOOD FLOW SLOWING CONSIDERABLY.

THEIR ATTACKS,
WHICH NOW WERE
MORE OF A SUMMER
BREEZE BLOWING
OVER MY TURTLE
SHELL, CEASED.

THEY WONDERED,
AS I HAD, IF THEY'D
KILLED ME.

I DID WHAT
A DEAD BODY
WOULD DO.

I FOOLED THEM.

I SURVIVED.







MY GRAVITY BUBBLE WAS
RUNNING OUT OF AIR.



I DIDN'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO
USE MY POWER. AND MOVING A TON
OF EARTH ISN'T REALLY WITHIN THE
REALM OF MY ABILITIES ANYWAY.

I WAS DOOMED....
AGAIN.

"WHAT
DID YOU
DO?"



WHAT
DID
I DO?

I REALIZED, DOWN IN THE DARK,
THAT IT WAS CONFIDENCE
THAT GAVE THE MONSTERS SUCH
CONTROL OVER THEIR POWER,
BUT IT WAS ALSO CONFIDENCE
THAT ALLOWED THEM TO
BE DECEIVED.



IF I COULD
JUST GET OUT OF THAT
PIT THEN THERE WAS A
POSSIBILITY I COULD BEAT
THEM, BECAUSE NOW
I KNEW THEIR
WEAKNESS.

SO...
HOW DID YOU
GET OUT?



LUCK WAS ON MY SIDE.

THERE WAS A HINT OF LIGHT
COMING IN FROM WHERE THE
BULLDOZER WASN'T FULLY
COVERED.

I COULD SEE PART OF THE
MACHINE'S CAB, IT'D SOMEHOW
CAUGHT A POCKET OF AIR.

I DIDN'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO MOVE
A BULLDOZER, BUT IF I FOCUSED...

...MAYBE I COULD
TURN A KEY...

...PUSH A GEAR.

MUCH LIGHTER TASKS...

...THAT MIGHT ACHIEVE
THE SAME END.

RRRRUUUMMBLE



E' L'AMERICANO!

E' ANCORA VIVO!



NON MUOVERTI!!

I WAS EXHAUSTED.
THESE GUYS HAD ME.

THEN I NOTICED THE
FEAR IN THEIR EYES.



I PERFORMED A
PARLOR TRICK.



EVEN THAT
WASN'T EASY.



BUT IT
WORKED.

THEY WERE IN
AWE, THEY WERE
IN TERROR.

I TRIED
MY BEST
NOT TO
LIMP.

I KEPT WAITING FOR THE NAZI-
MONSTERS TO SHOW UP AND FINISH
ME OFF, OR FOR JAN GUNTHER TO
APPEAR WITH A PISTOL.

BUT IT DIDN'T HAPPEN.

THEY HAD LEFT.

AND THEY'D TAKEN
CHASE WITH THEM.





* TRANSLATED FROM EGYPTIAN



JACK
PARSONS?
CHASE'S CONTACT
IN CAIRO? HOW
THE HELL DID YOU
FIND HIM?

THE LOCALS AT THE DIG GAVE ME SOME CLOTHES AND
THE KEYS TO A TRUCK.

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT
LIBYAN POLITICS, BUT I DON'T
THINK THEY LIKE ALL THOSE
ITALIANS HANGING AROUND.

ANYWAY, I
FOLLOWED THE
COAST EAST. IT
WASN'T FAR.

BY THE TIME I GOT TO THE BORDER, I'D
GAINED BACK ENOUGH OF MY STRENGTH
TO FLY OVER THE BRITISH CHECKPOINT
AND ON INTO CAIRO.

I REMEMBERED JACK TELLING ME TO MEET HIM IN THE
BAZAAR, SO I TOOK THE HIGH GROUND AND WAITED.

MY FRUSTRATION
WAS MOUNTING.
I DESPERATELY
NEEDED ANSWERS,
NEEDED TO PIECE
IT ALL TOGETHER
SOMEHOW.

AND MAN, DID JACK
EVER HAVE ANSWERS.



WHAT'S GOING ON IS A LOT BIGGER THAN JUST SAVING THE GIRL.

WHEN THAT RUSSIAN SPY MENTIONED VRIL BACK AT CHASE'S HOTEL, IT SENT A CHILL UP MY SPINE.

I'VE BEEN... SHAKY EVER SINCE.

THE WORD VRIL GETS THROWN AROUND IN CERTAIN OCCULT CIRCLES. IT'S MENTIONED IN THE OLDEST BOOKS.

IT'S AN INFINITE ENERGY SOURCE, SOMEHOW PART OF REALITY ON AN ATOMIC LEVEL. THE STUFF THAT FIRES THE UNIVERSE, FOLLOW ME?

AT DIFFERENT TIMES IN HISTORY THE HOLY, THE MAD, AND THE INNOCENT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACCESS VRIL IN SMALL DOSES THROUGH MEDITATION AND RITUAL.

IT'S FOUND IN *RELIGIO ROMANA*.

SOMEHOW, BY CONTEMPLATING THE STRUCTURE OF AN APPLE SLICED IN HALF, THE ROMANS MANAGED TO CAPTURE LITTLE POCKETS OF VRIL...

...AND ENCASE IT IN METAL BALLS THAT GUARDED THEIR HOMES FROM ILLNESS.

CUT THE HISTORY LESSON, JACK.

PAY ATTENTION!! IT'S BELIEVED THAT THIS INFINITESIMAL PRESENCE OF VRIL ENERGY CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.

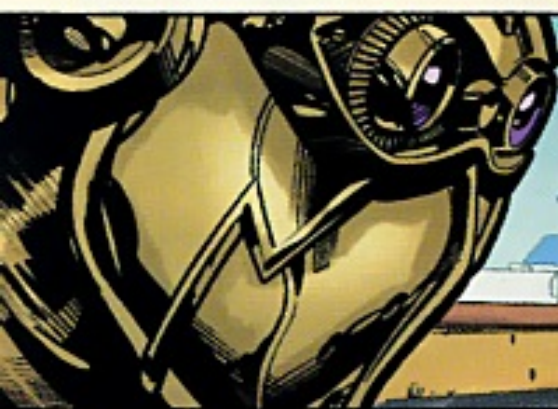
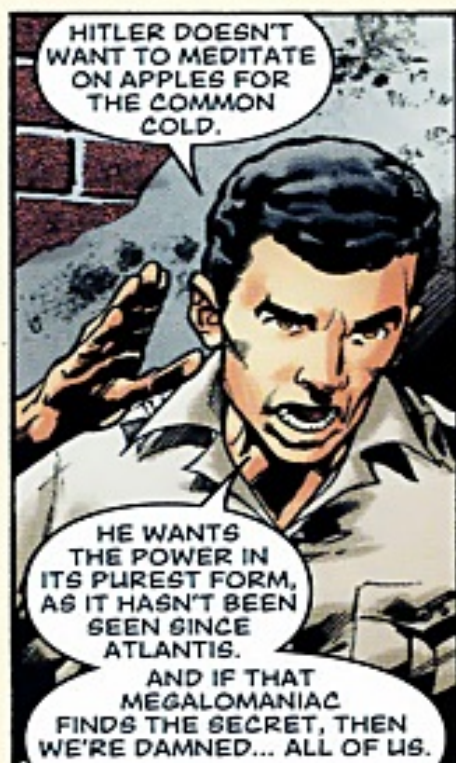
BUT ALL ACCOUNTS TRACE THE ORIGINAL DISCOVERY OF VRIL TO LONG BEFORE ROME...

...TO A CIVILIZATION THAT WAS ENTIRELY FUELED BY THE STUFF, PERMEATED WITH IT, THAT EVEN USED IT AS AN UNPARALLELED WEAPON.

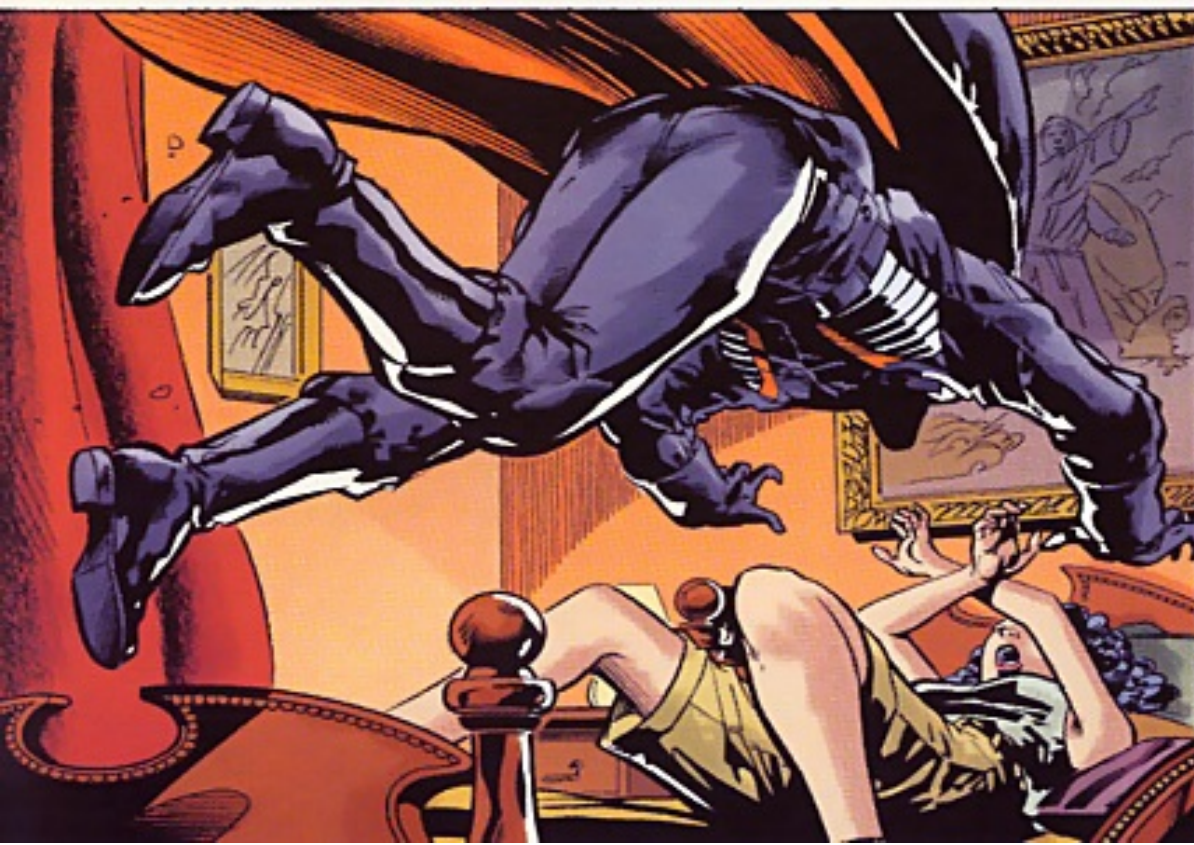
THAT CIVILIZATION WAS ATLANTIS, CAPTAIN. THE NAZIS ARE LOOKING FOR ATLANTIS.

YOU STILL HIGH?

COME ON, YOU CAN FLY FOR CHRIST SAKE! I THINK YOU'VE SEEN ENOUGH TO TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY.









NOW,
EITHER
YOU DRESS
YOURSELF...

...OR I
DRESS
YOU.



HEIL
HITLER.



HERR
GUNTHER.

(WELCOME BACK
TO THE FATHERLAND.
IT MUST BE NICE TO BE OUT
OF THAT COUNTRY WITH IT'S
APPALLING EGALITARIAN
TENDENCIES.)*



LIBYA, MEIN
FÜHRER?

(AMERICA, MR.
GUNTHER.)

(YES, WELL,
MY TIME THERE
WAS NOT
UNPLEASANT.)

(NO, YOU
MET A FAMOUS
MOVIE STAR.
HOW DO THEY
SAY IT?)

A COUNTRY
GIRL?

(A BEAUTY
FOR MY BEAST, YES.)



(AND DESPITE SPECIFIC
INSTRUCTIONS YOU
BROUGHT HER ALONG
ON THE SINGLE MOST
IMPORTANT MISSION IN
THE HISTORY OF THE
GERMAN PEOPLE.)







(CAPTAIN GRAVITY...
WHAT A DELICIOUS TURN
OF EVENTS.)

(GUNTHER DRAGS
AROUND THAT GIRL
LIKE A CHILD DRAGS
ALONG A DEFLATED
BALLOON.)

(THE
PREDICTABILITY OF
HEROISM DICTATES THE
VALIANT CAPTAIN
RUSHING TO SAVE
HER.)

(ALERT ALL
LUFTWAFFE
UNITS. HAVE THEM
DISPOSE OF THIS
ANNOYANCE.)

(YES, REICH
SORCERER.)

NEXT: DOGFIGHT OVER POLAND AND AN ENEMY FROM
THE PAST REARS HIS UGLY HEAD (AND I DO MEAN UGLY)...
CAPTAIN GRAVITY STARS IN CHAPTER IV: INTO THE LION'S DEN!

Shane Radcliffe
Chase Dubois

Captain Gravity in

The MEN of the
SHADOWS

Directed by C. F. Avery

Hollywood Scene's News and Gossip Extra

HOLLYWOOD WHISPERS



(above) Chase Dubois last seen boarding a plane to Egypt with boyfriend Jan Gunther.

Chase Dubois Kidnapped?

Academy Award-Nominated CHASE DUBOIS left a few weeks ago for the wilds of Egypt and reportedly hasn't been heard from since. Her publicist is staying tight-lipped, but the rumors are flying around Tinseltown that Chase has been kidnapped.

Producers at PFP Pictures took a public stand against one of their chief commodities taking a leave of absence to a not-so-friendly locale, and even threatened to drop her from the studio. But Miss Dubois called their bluff and proceeded with new flame JAN GUNTHER to the Middle East. GUNTHER, a world renowned archaeologist, was sent to Egypt for a potentially important dig. Chase raised quite a few eyebrows when she told HOLLYWOOD WHISPERS that

she just couldn't be without her new man. Sources say that the affair has only lasted a month.

Gunther's American connections aren't talking either, but their manner implies that they haven't heard from him since his arrival in Cairo.

C.E. Avery, Dubois' director on the CAPTAIN GRAVITY serials, is presumed to be the last person to hear from the actress. "She sent me a telegram from Egypt," Avery told HOLLYWOOD WHISPERS. "She told me I had gotten Egypt all wrong in my last mummy flick. I haven't heard from her since."

Let's keep our fingers crossed that America's favorite starlet hasn't met with any foul play. For once, let's hope that she's gotten married on the sly and is involving herself in lesser scandals that might affect her reputation, but most certainly not her life.

And speaking of trouble...Avery's staff is depleting by the day. His personal assistant has been reported missing and SHANE RADCLIFFE has been sent on a vacation of indeterminable length. His agent has said that working on the CAPTAIN GRAVITY serials has tired out the veteran actor, but the buzz in celeb circles is that the CAPTAIN GRAVITY star has become a little too fond of taking a wee dram with each meal. Sources say he is receiving treatment along with his rest at an undisclosed location.

Whatever the case, let's hope that Avery can get his team reunited to put out more of the serial everyone loves: CAPTAIN GRAVITY.

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CAPTAIN GRAVITY™

And the POWER *of the* VRIL

ISSUE #4



SAVATO
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CAPTAIN GRAVITY™

And the POWER *of the* VRIL

Captain Gravity encounters the Guardians of Thule in Libya and discovers that he is not the sole agent of gravity. Not only do the Guardians bend the force to their will, they also possess a far advanced knowledge of the power. Joshua must survive his attack in order to go to the source of Nazi control, Hitler's Berlin. But unknown to the Captain, a mysterious presence lurks beneath Hitler's headquarter, a presence that holds the keys to the world's destruction.

"The art by Velluto and Almond is often beautiful. It's a classic comic style, as you might imagine, but it's crisp and detailed without being too busy, and the scenes of Captain Gravity taking to air—whether on a movie set or in 'real life'—are absolute stand outs."

Andrea Speed, www.comixtreme.com

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